

NEGLECTED CEMETERY ACCOUNT GRANT PROGRAM

BACKGROUND:

Section 19a-308 of the Connecticut General Statutes (C.G.S) defines a “neglected cemetery”, and subsection 19a-308(b) relieves municipalities, municipal employees, and agents and officers of municipalities from criminal or civil liability for undertaking the care and maintenance of a neglected cemetery.

Section 205 of Public Act 14-217 created the Neglected Cemetery Account and directed the Office of Policy and Management (OPM) to make grants to municipalities that wish provide upkeep to local, neglected cemeteries by: clearing them of weeds, briars and bushes; mowing the lawn areas; repairing walls and fences; straightening memorial stones and otherwise keeping these cemeteries in an orderly and decent condition.

GRANT PARAMETERS AND APPLICATION PROCESS:

Municipalities may apply for grants up to two thousand dollars (**\$ 2,000.00**) for the reclamation and maintenance of neglected cemeteries. Municipalities may **only submit one application each year** and awards will be made on a **first-come, first-served basis** until the Neglected Cemetery Account has been exhausted. It is anticipated that there will be another grant round during Fiscal Year 2017-2018.

Applications must be submitted no later than **September 20, 2016** and awards will be announced by **October 20, 2016**. Application forms may be found on the OPM website: <http://www.ct.gov/opm/cwp/view.asp?A=2985&Q=569274>.

Please note, due to the small cap on the maximum size of a grant award under this program, ***resolutions from the legislative body of the municipality are not required***. The municipality need only provide certified copies of the minutes of the meeting of its Board of Selectmen, Town or City Council (or equivalent body) and a certified copy of the minutes of its Board of Finance (or equivalent body) which authorizes the Chief Elected Official or Town Manager to apply for and administer this grant. The municipality will have up to thirty days after the date of preliminary approval of the application to provide these certified copies.

CONTACT: You may contact David LeVasseur at (860) 418-6484 or at david.levasseur@ct.gov should you have any questions.